



# the HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

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## Mustangs end season with loss to Oakers



Members of the Heppner Mustangs take to the field during the semifinal game versus the Oakland Oakers last Saturday. In the forefront (L-R): Junior Cade Cunningham (#51), Freshman Landon McMahon (#62), Sophomore Jaime Cavan (#50), Junior Landon Mitchell (#1), Senior Tucker Ashbeck (#75), Junior Cameron Proudfoot (#34) and Junior Caden George (#24). -Photo by Kirsti Cason



Senior Saul Lopez (#27) leads the charge up the field with senior Jacob Lentz (#68) Right: Mustang player dives to stop Oaker player. -Photo by Kirsti Cason



Junior Landon Mitchell (#1) takes to the air to throw a pass. -Photo by Kirsti Cason



Junior Cameron Proudfoot (#34) goes up for a catch. -Photo by Kirsti Cason

The Heppner Mustang football season came to an end last weekend with a 26-0 loss to the Oakland Oakers in the OSAA 2A State Championship Semifinals. The game was played in a cool breeze at Hillsboro Stadium.

The Mustangs struggled to get their game on track against the number-one ranked team in the state. Heppner only trailed 6-0 at the end of the first quarter and 14-0 at half-time.

Oakland got 12 points in the third quarter to put

the game out of reach, and neither team scored in the fourth quarter.

For the game, the Mustangs could only manage 142 total yards while giving up 358 to Oakland. Heppner rushed for 68 yards and the Oakers 300. The Mustangs had 74 passing yards and Oakland 58.

The leading rusher for the Mustangs was Cameron Proudfoot with 27 yards on six carries. Saul Lopez rushed for 21 yards, and Caden George and Hayden McMahon each had eight yards on the ground.

Landon Mitchell ran the ball for four yards.

Mitchell was 6-12 passing the ball for 74 yards. Proudfoot caught four balls for 53 yards and George had two receptions for 21 yards.

The defense was led by George with 11 tackles, and Jake Lentz had 10. Finishing with nine tackles each were Lopez, David Cribbs and Cade Cunningham. Jaime Cavan had eight tackles, and Proudfoot and Mitchell finished the game with seven. Tucker Ashbeck had five tackles and Mason Orem had one for the Mustangs.

## City of Heppner receives land donation



The Heppner City Council accepted the donation of a small parcel of land along Willow Creek from Kraig Cutsforth at its regular meeting Monday, Nov. 14. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

By Andrea Di Salvo

The City of Heppner accepted a donation of land from Heppner City Manager Kraig Cutsforth at its regular meeting Monday, Nov. 14, at Heppner City Hall.

The parcel is located along Willow Creek near the Heppner Dam. It extends downstream from the Alfalfa St. right of way.

Also at the meeting, the council approved a resolution to amend Cutsforth's

current city manager agreement to offer up to nine months additional health and life insurance premium coverage. Cutsforth's current agreement dates from April of 2019. The resolution adopts a cost allocation to extend insurance coverage to July 1, 2023.

In old business, Cutsforth said the sewer project is still underway but moving slowly at the moment. Doherty added that he had been working on submitting required management plans for recycled water, biosolid and solid waste to the DEQ for review.

On the street projects, Cutsforth quipped that Ferguson Engineering had been "eerily silent" about the Jones St. project the last couple of weeks, "right along with anybody who's supposed to come finish all that stuff up," he added, saying he would try to track them down and see if

they're going to show up again before spring. He also said that, although he hadn't seen crews from the contractors out working, he and Heppner City Maintenance Manager Chad Doherty had been working to make sure the city streets at least meet the minimum safety standards.

When asked, he also reported that he had requested a bid from the county for chip sealing Riverside but hadn't yet received one. "I need to follow up on that," he said.

In the city manager's report, Cutsforth said that, with the passage of the psilocybin prohibition, he planned to look into whether the city needed to take any further action, such as passing an ordinance. He congratulated the council members who had been re-elected and noted that they will need to fill council member Corey Sweeney's position when he takes over as mayor.

Cutsforth also reported having meetings with the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group, Oregon Dept. of Transportation and the Morrow County Planning Commission. He sent several code compliance letters, worked on a December city planning commission meeting, updated the city's Sam's registration for the year, set a meeting with a company offering security camera solutions for the town, worked on a lot

adjustment for a property, ordered five trees for Main Street and two for the park, had Zoom meetings with a group developing a natural hazards update study a housing inventory project group, reviewed the final draft of water management and conservation plan and looked for a street sweeper for public works.

Fire chief Steve Rhea reported that the Heppner fire department had a "pretty busy October." There were six lift assists, six secure landing zones, three search and rescue, one smoke filled house on Dee Cox, three false alarms at Heppner Elementary, one brush fire, one civil dispute on whether to light a debris fire on Linden Way, 36 fire chief calls and 164 calls for service to date.

He also reported burning of natural vegetation -Continued to PAGE SEVEN

## New sheriff speaks to Measure 114

Morrow County Sheriff John Bowles has released the following statement regarding ballot measure 114:

"While waiting to see if Ballot Measure 114 is going to be certified into law, I have received several inquiries regarding where I stand on the measure.

I did not promote or advocate for the passing of Ballot Measure 114. I am an advocate for people's rights, safety, security and livability. This measure will not help increase any of those objectives. This measure will make it more difficult and more expensive for law-abiding citizens to exercise their second amendment right. And here is a news flash: criminals do not follow the law. Law abiding citizens will work to comply with this law and criminals will not.

So, what is this measure going to accomplish?

In Morrow County, measure 114 failed by a count of 20.14 percent Yes to a count of 79.86 percent No. Measure 114 will require a permit from law enforcement for citizens to purchase a firearm. Applicants will be required to complete safety training, pass a criminal background check and receive a permit from local law enforcement, city or county, then complete another background check by the Oregon State Police prior to the purchase of a firearm.

This measure also prohibits the manufacturing, importing, purchasing, selling, possessing, using or transferring ammunition magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds and makes violations a class A misdemeanor (punishable by up to 364 days in

jail, a fine of up to \$6,250 or both). This portion of measure 114 will not be an enforcement priority and we will not be knocking on doors to see if law-abiding citizens have a magazine that can hold more than 10 rounds.

Measure 114 will be another unfunded mandate. Having to use current staff to comply with measure 114 requirements will negatively affect other public services. Yet local law enforcement will be tasked with creating, implementing and staffing the required permitting process. This will be a strain on local budgets, staffing and resources. Moving forward, sheriffs, chiefs, Oregon State Sheriffs Association, Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and Oregon State Police will be collaborating to create an efficient permitting process.

My priority is to provide safety, security and livability, while protecting the rights of all Morrow County citizens and visitors. I can see the possibility of measure 114 being challenged in court and a stay being granted while it is worked out in our court system. If this measure is enacted into law, I will work diligently to put an efficient permitting process in place.

As Morrow County Sheriff, I swore under oath to support the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution and laws of the State of Oregon. I take this oath very seriously and will work within the law to protect the Constitutional rights of all people."

John A. Bowles,  
Morrow County Sheriff

## How MCSD decides about weather delays and closures



School bus travels up a snowy road. -Contributed photo

With the onset of winter weather, there are several things parents and students should know about Morrow County School District weather policies. According to the district website, multiple factors come into play when MCSD considers when

making "what often seems like the most difficult decision administrators have to make."

Topping that list is student safety. Other factors are:

-Weather forecast—when learning of potential

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